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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

9-16-1955

Tanksley, Lester family television script

Howard Langfitt

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[Tanksley, Lester]

FOR Friday, Sept. 16, 1955

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
CAMERA ON LANGFITT	WELL, ONCE AGAIN IT IS TIME TO SALUTE ANOTHER
	FARM FAMILY MAKING AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
	TO BETTER FARMING IN MISSISSIPPI. THIS IS THE
SLIDE <u>FARM-1</u>	STORY OF MR. AND MRS. LESTER TANKSLEY AND
HOUSE	THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS AND SON, OF ROUTE 1, LORMAN
	MISSISSIPPI. TODAY'S FAMILY WAS SELECTED WITH
	THE VERY FINE HELP OF MR. W.R. DYKES, ASSISTANT
	COUNTY AGENT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY. MR. AND MRS.
	TANKSLEY MET IN HIGH SCHOOL AND WERE HIGH SCHOOL
	SWEETHEARTS. MR. TANKSLEY GREW UP ON THE LAND
	HE NOW OWNS. MR. TANKSLEY TOOK OVER OPERATION
	OF THE LAND WHEN HE WAS 15 WHILE HIS FATHER
	SERVED AS TAX ASSESSOR IN JEFFERSON COUNTY.
	HE STARTED OUT FARMING 250 ACRES AND WHEN HE
	MARRIED 22 YEARS AGO HE BROUGHT HIS BRIDE TO
	THIS FARM. OVER THE YEARS THEY HAVE BUILT
	ON TO AND REMODELED THEIR HOME. TODAY THEIR
	FARM LAND CONSISTS OF 400 ACRES WHICH THEY OWN
	AND ANOTHER 240 ACRES WHICH THEY LEASE. WHEN
SLIDE <u>FARM-2</u>	THEY STARTED THE FARM WAS PRIMARILY COTTON
CATTLE	AND CORN PATCH FARMING AND HAD 9 TENNANT
	FAMILIES LIVING ON THE LAND. BESIDES COTTON
	AND CORN LESTER TANKSLEY HAD 30 HEAD OF COMMERCIAL
	CATTLE

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VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-3</u> TWO COWS</p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-4</u> COWS AND CALVES</p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-7</u> BACK-RUB</p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-5</u> BULL</p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-6</u> YOUNG BULL</p>	<p>OVER THE YEARS HE HAS CLEARED ALL BUT 75 ACRES OF THE 400 ACRES OF LAND, AND TODAY 140 HEAD OF COMMERCIAL CATTLE GRAZE THE LAND. THE LIVESTOCK PROGRAM IS PRIMARILY A COW AND CALF PROGRAM, WITH 100 HEAD OF BROOD COWS. THIRTY OF THE COWS ARE HALF SANTA GERTRUDIS. THESE SANTA GERTRUDIS COWS ARE USED TO BREED A STURDIER STOCK OF COMMERCIAL CATTLE. LESTER TANKSLEY GETS ABOUT A 90 PERCENT CALF CROP FROM HIS HERD. HE CULLS HIS HERD CLOSELY TO GET RID OF NON-PRODUCERS AND SAVES HIS BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT. EACH WINTER HE BUYS ABOUT 80 HEAD OF CALVES WHICH HE CARRIES THROUGH THE WINTER ON TEMPORARY GRAZING OF OATS AND THEN SELLS IN THE SPRING AS FAT CALVES. EVERYTHING BROUGHT ONTO THE PLACE IS VACCINATED IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT SPREADIN DISEASE THROUGH HIS HERD. HE FOLLOWS A CONSISTENT SPRAY PROGRA ON HIS CATTLE AND HAS BACK-RUBS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED FOR HORN FLY CONTROL. LIKE MOST GOOD COMMERCIAL CATTLE PRODUCERS LESTER TANKSLEY BREEDS HIS COWS TO REGISTERED HEREFORD BULLS HE HAS FOUR BULLS IN SERVICE AT THE PRESENT TIME AND IS RAISING YOUNG BULLS TO REPLACE THESE AS THEY OUTGROW THEIR USEFULNESS. MR. TANKSLEY FOLLOWS A YEAR ROUND GRAZING PROGRAM</p>

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VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-8
KUDZU

SLIDE FARM-9
PASTURE

SLIDE FARM-10
TIMBER

AND SUPPLEMENTS THIS WITH HOME GROWN GRAIN DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. LESTER TANKSLEY AND SON KENNETH HAVE ABOUT 120 ACRES IN PERMANENT IMPROVED PASTURE. THIRTY ACRES OF IT IS IN KUDZU AND THE REST IN RE-SEADING CRIMSON CLOVER, WHITE CLOVER, BERMUDA GRASS, DALLIS GRASS, LESPEDEZA AND WILD WINTER PEAS. MUCH OF THE TEMPORARY GRAZING IS PUT IN WITH A SOD SEEDER. LESTER TANKSLEY RAISES ABOUT 90 ACRES OF TEMPORARY GRAZING CONSISTING OF 40 ACRES OF OATS AND WILD WINTER PEAS AND 50 ACRES OF OATS ALONE. HE PUTS UP ABOUT 600 BALES OF OAT HAY AND BERMUDA GRASS AND LESPEDEZA HAY. MUCH OF THE LAND WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED OVER THE YEARS LOOKED LIKE THIS GROVE OF TREES BEFORE IT WAS CLEARED. EARLY IN HIS FARM PROGRAM, LESTER TANKSLEY MOVED HIS COTTON GROUND EACH YEAR AND CLEARED NEW GROUND TO PUT INTO COTTON, AND PUT THE OLD COTTON GROUND INTO GRASS. IN THIS MANNER AND ALSO BY USING A BULLDOZER MOST OF THE 400 ACRES OF LAND HAS BEEN CLEARED SINCE LESTER TANKSLEY BEGAN FARMING IT. HE CUTS HIS OWN OAK AND BLACK LOCUST FENCE POSTS AND THE FARM IS COMPLETELY FENCED AND CROSS FENCED. AS THE LAND HAS BEEN CLEARED, GULLIES HAVE

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VIDEO	AUDIO
SLIDE <u>FARM-11</u> CORN	BEEN FILLED IN AND SEEDED OVER TO HOLD THE SOIL LESTER TANKSLEY HAS ABOUT 25 ACRES OF CORN WHICH WILL BE PULLED AND USED FOR LIVESTOCK FEED DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. HERE WE GET A LOOK AT THE QUALITY OF THIS YEAR'S CROP ASSMR. TANK TANKSLEE, SON KENNETH, AND ASSISTANT COUNTY AGE DYKES SHUCK SOME OF IT BACK TO SHOW THE FINE WELL DEVELOPED EARS. BESIDES PASTURE AND FEED GRAIN, WATER PLAYS A MIGHTY IMPORTANT PART IN THE FARM PROGRAM. SEVEN STOCK PONDS SIMILAR TO THIS ONE SUPPLY ALL THE WATER THAT IS NEEDED AROUND THE FARM FOR WATERING LIVESTOCK. MOST OF THE PONDS ARE STOCKED WITH FISH TO PROVIDE PLEASURE AND FOOD FOR THE FAMILY. LESTER TANKSLEY STILL RAISES SOME COTTON, THOUGH NOT AS MUCH AS HE ONCE DID. THIS YEAR HE HAS ABOUT 13 AND A HALF ACRES AND IT WILL AVERAGE ABOUT A BALE TO THE ACRE. BY THE WAY, THIS FIELD HAS ALREADY BEEN PICKED OVER ONCE, AND HAS YIELDED SIX BALES. MACHINERY TAKES THE PLACE OF TENNANT FAMILIES AND TODAY ONLY TWO FAMILIES LIVE ON THE FARM AND NEITHER OF THEM DO ANY CROPPING. FOOD FOR THE FAMILY IS AS VITAL TO THE TANKSLEY FARM AND HOME PROGRAM AS IS FOOD FOR THEIR LIVESTOCK. BESIDES A ONE
SLIDE <u>FARM-12</u> STOCK POND	
SLIDE <u>FARM-13</u> COTTON	
SLIDE <u>FARM-14</u> GARDEN	

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VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-15
2 GIRLS

ACRE GARDEN THEY HAVE ADDITIONAL PATCHES OF POTATOES, SWEET POTATOES, PEAS AND CORN FOR THE FAMILY LARDER. THE LESTER TANKSLEY FAMILY PRODUCE PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING THE CONSUME AND THE WHOLE FAMILY WORKS TO PRODUCE AND PRESERVE THE FOOD SUPPLY. TWIN DAUGHTERS, KAY AND FAYE TANKSLEY HELP TO CAN MUCH OF THE 250 QUARTS OF FOOD THAT IS CANNED EACH YEAR, AND WITH THEIR MOTHER THEY FREEZE ANOTHER 2,000 POUNDS OF FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND MEAT EACH YEAR. THE GIRLS AND THEIR MOTHER RAISE ABOUT 20 LAYING HENS FOR EGGS FOR THE FAMILY. THEY CULL THEIR HENS CLOSE AND REPLACE THEM WITH PULLETS AS THEY GO OUT OF PRODUCTION. AS FAST AS THE HENS QUIT LAYING THEY GO INTO THE DEEP FREEZE. BOTH GIRLS ARE OUTSTANDING 4-H CLUB MEMBERS. LAST YEAR THEY HAD THE SECOND PLACE DEMONSTRATION TEAM IN THEIR CLASS AT STATE 4-H CLUB CONGRESS AND THIS YEAR, FAYE HAD THE STATE CHAMPION INDIVIDUAL DAIRY FOODS DEMONSTRATION. HERE WE SEE HER WITH THEIR PASTEURIZER WHICH THEY USE TO PASTEURIZE ALL MILK FOR THE FAMILY'S USE. MRS. TANKSLEY IS ACTIVE IN HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK AND PROUDLY EXHIBITS SOME METAL ETCHING SHE HAS DONE. SHE

SLIDE FARM-16
FAYE TANKSLEY

SLIDE FARM-17
MRS. TANKSLEY

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VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-18</u> CHURCH</p> <p>CAMERA ON FAMILY</p>	<p>ALSO REFINISHES HER FURNITURE AND SHE AND THE GIRLS DO THEIR OWN SEWING. THE TANKSLEY FAMILY ARE MEMBERS OF THE BLUE HILLS METHODIST CHURCH WHERE MRS. TANKSLEY IS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND HAS BEEN FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS. SHE ALSO HAS TAUGHT THE YOUTH CLASS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS. KAY IS CHURCH PIANIST AND FAYE ASSISTS WHEN NEEDED. BOTH GIRLS ARE SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS IN THEIR SUNDAY SCHOOL.</p> <p>MR. TANKSLEY IS A MEMBER OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU AND THE COUNTY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION. MRS. TANKSLEY IS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION COUNCIL, IS 4-H CLUB ADVISOR OF THE BLUE HILLS HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB, IS SECRETARY OF THE COUNTY 4-H CLUB ADVISORY COUNCIL, HAS BEEN ADULT LEADER OF THE RED LICK 4-H CLUB FOR 8 YEARS AND IS FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY GARDEN CLUB. 18 YEAR OLD KENNETH IS A GRADUATE OF RED LICK HIGH SCHOOL, WAS A 4-H CLUB MEMBER FOR 4 YEARS, ATTENDED HINDS JUNIOR COLLEGE LAST YEAR, IS A MEMBER OF THE NAVAL RESERVE AND IS THIS YEAR FARMING WITH HIS FATHER. HE PLANS TO ENTER COLLEGE NEXT</p>

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TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
	<p>YEAR WITH HIS SISTERS KAY AND FAYE. KAYE AND FAYE TANKSLEY HAVE BEEN 4-H CLUB MEMBERS FOR 6 YEARS. KAY IS PRESIDENT OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY 4-H CLUB COUNCIL AND PRESIDENT OF THE RED LICK 4-H CLUB. FAYE IS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY 4-H CLUB COUNCIL AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE RED LICK 4-H CLUB. BOTH GIRLS WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTY AT THE STATE KE 4-H CLUB LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE THIS YEAR AND BOTH PLAY ON THE FIRST TEAM OF THE RED LICK HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SQUAD. THIS IS TRULY A FAMILY THAT WORKS HARD IN THEIR COMMUNITY TO MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE. THEY NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO A BETTER AGRICULTURE IN MISSISSIPPI BY THEIR OWN FARMING PROGRAM BUT THEY CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER FARM LIVING BY THEIR DEVOTION TO THE SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PHASES OF RURAL LIFE. THEY ARE DEVOTING THEIR EFFORTS TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR MISSISSIPPI FARM FOLKS AND WE ARE PROUD TO SALUTE THEM AS OUR OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE WEEK, A FAMILY OF WHICH JEFFERSON COUNTY CAN WELL BE PROUD AND A FAMILY OF WHICH THE WHOLE STATE CAN BE PROUD.</p>